Pay Scales of Engineering Services in AIR/DD

3804. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about ratification of its proposal already made by the Prasar Bharti Board for upgradation of pay scales in respect of subordinate engineering services in AIR and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to implement the new pay scales in respect of subordinate engineering services in AIR and Doordarshan; and

(c) if answer to part (a) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Government instructions, 90% of the new pay scales are being paid to the concerned employees. For payment of 100% of the new pay scales, the proposal is under examination.

(c) Does not arise.

Arrears of Doordarshan to Department of Telecommunications

3805. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has refused to pay Rs. 36.13 crores arrears to the Department of Telecommunication for satellite charges;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to clear all outstanding Government dues to reflect a correct accounting position?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir. While no such satellite charges are pending, there are certain other dues payable to Department of Telecom by Doordarshan of approximately a similar amount. Doordarshan paid approximately Rs. 8 crores in April 1997 and for payment of the rest of the amount, the matter is under discussion between the two Departments.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Registered Cinema Houses/Video Parlours in the country

3806. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of registered cinema houses and video parlours in the country, State-wise according to the latest information available;

(b) the rough estimates of similar houses and parlours that are not registered; and

(c) the measures, Government propose in consultation with the State Governments, to eradicate the evil of display of obscene films in these parlours and cinema houses.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) According to the information available in the Films Division, there are 12,585 cinema houses in India as on 30th June, 1998. The State-wise break-up of cinema houses is given in the Statement (*see* below). The statistical information regarding video parlours is not maintained by the Central Government.

(b) This statistical information is not maintained by the Central Government.

(c) Central Board of Film Certification has taken up the matter with State Governments/Union Territory Administrations as the enforcement powers are vested with State Governments/Union Territory Adminstrtations under the Cinematograph Act, 1952.